

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 13, and 16 as set forth below.

A complete listing of all claims in this application is set forth below.

1. (currently amended) A joint prosthesis, comprising:
 - a femoral component having first condylar articular surface, a second condylar articular surface, and an intercondylar recess interposed therebetween;
 - a tibial component having a bone engaging portion and defining a connection bore;
 - a meniscal component having a stem positioned within said connection bore of said tibial component so as to rotatably mount said meniscal component to said tibial component, and further having a first bearing surface and a second bearing surface spaced apart from each other so as to define a channel, ~~said stem being fixed in relation to said first bearing surface and said second bearing surface;~~ and
 - a stabilizing post slidably mounted within said channel of said meniscal component, said post projecting into said intercondylar recess when said first condylar articular surface and said second condylar articular surface are respectively positioned in contact with said first bearing surface and said second bearing surface,

wherein no relative movement occurs between said stem and said first bearing surface and said second bearing surface during sliding of said stabilizing post within said channel of said meniscal component.

2. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein said channel includes an open end, and further comprising:
 - a locking member configured to be mounted in said open end of said channel.

3. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 2, wherein said locking member provides a stop surface at said open end of said channel when said locking member is mounted in said open end of said channel.

4. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 2, wherein said locking member is configured to be press-fit within said channel.

5. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein:
said channel defines a pair of grooves, each being located at a lateral side of said channel, and
said stabilizing post includes a base configured for sliding engagement within said pair of grooves.

6. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 5, wherein said base has a first length and said channel has a second length greater than said first length.

7. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 5, further comprising a locking component configured for locking engagement within said pair of grooves.

8. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of locking components each configured for locking engagement within said pair of grooves, wherein each of said plurality of locking members possesses a different length.

9. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, further comprising a number of alternate stabilizing posts each configured to mount within said channel of said meniscal component, wherein each of said number of alternate stabilizing posts possesses a profile that is different from others of said number of alternate stabilizing posts.

10. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 1, wherein:
said intercondylar recess includes surfaces at its opposite ends;
said stabilizing post includes a face opposing one of said opposite end surfaces; and

said face and said one of said opposite end surfaces are configured to provide a camming movement of said stabilizing post as said one of said opposite end surfaces moves in contact with said face.

11. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 10, wherein:
said stabilizing post includes an opposite face opposing the other of said opposite end surfaces; and

said opposite face and the other of said opposite end surfaces are configured to provide a camming movement of said stabilizing post as said other of said opposite end surfaces moves in contact with said opposite face.

12. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 11, wherein said face and said opposite face are differently curved.

13. (currently amended) A joint prosthesis, comprising:
a femoral component having a first bone engaging portion, an articular surface, and a recess formed in said articular surface;
a tibial component having a second bone engaging portion and defining a bore;
a meniscal component having (i) a stem positioned within said bore of said tibial component, and (ii) a bearing surface configured to contact said articular surface, said meniscal component defining a channel, ~~and further said stem being fixed in relation to said bearing surface;~~ and
a stabilizing post slidably mounted within said channel, said post projecting into said recess when said articular surface is positioned in contact with said bearing surface,
wherein no relative movement occurs between said stem and said bearing surface during sliding of said stabilizing post within said channel.

14. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 13, wherein said meniscal component is configured to rotate in relation to said tibial component.

15. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 13, wherein said meniscal component includes a first bearing surface and a second bearing surface spaced apart from each other so as to define said channel.

16. (currently amended) A joint prosthesis comprising:

- a first joint component having a bone engaging portion, an articular surface, and a recess defined within said articular surface;
- a mating component having a bone engaging portion and defining a bearing surface for sliding contact with said articular surface of said first joint component; and
- a stabilizing post slidably mounted to said mating component amid said bearing surface, said post projecting from said mating component and into said recess when said articular surface is in contact with said bearing surface,

wherein said mating component includes (i) a second joint component including the bone engaging portion; and (ii) an intermediate component connected to said second joint component, said intermediate component including said bearing surface,

wherein said second joint component defines a bore; and

wherein said intermediate component includes a pin sized to be received within said bore, and

wherein ~~said pin is fixed in relation to said bearing surface~~ no relative movement occurs between said pin and said bearing surface during sliding of said stabilizing post relative to said intermediate component of said mating component.

17. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 16, wherein said bore and said pin are configured to permit relative rotation therebetween when said pin is received within said bore.

18. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 16, wherein:
said mating component defines an elongated channel; and
said stabilizing post includes a base configured for sliding engagement within said channel and a spine projecting from said base through said channel and into said recess when said articular surface is in contact with said bearing surface.

19. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 18, wherein:
said channel is open at one end; and
said mating component includes a locking member configured to close said one end with said base of said stabilizing post disposed within said channel.

20. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 19, wherein said locking member is configured for a press-fit within said channel.

21. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 19, wherein:
said channel includes an enlarged groove at opposite sides of said channel;
said base is configured for sliding engagement within said grooves; and
said locking component is configured for locking engagement within said grooves.

22. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 19, wherein said locking member is selectable from a plurality of locking members having different lengths when disposed within said channel.

23. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 18, wherein:
said channel includes an enlarged groove at opposite sides of said channel; and
said base is configured for sliding engagement within said grooves with said spine projecting through said channel.

24. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 23, wherein said base has a length and said channel has a length greater than the length of said base.

25. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 16, wherein said stabilizing post is selectable from a plurality of stabilizing posts having different profiles.

26. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 16, wherein:
said recess includes surfaces at its opposite ends;
said stabilizing post includes a face opposing one of said opposite end surfaces; and
said face and said one of said opposite end surfaces are configured to provide a camming movement of said stabilizing post as said one of said opposite end surfaces moves in contact with said face.

27. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 26, wherein:
said stabilizing post includes an opposite face opposing the other of said opposite end surfaces; and
said opposite face and the other of said opposite end surfaces are configured to provide a camming movement of said stabilizing post as said other of said opposite end surfaces moves in contact with said opposite face.

28. (original) The joint prosthesis of claim 27, wherein said face and said opposite face are differently curved.